

Saving Lives Together

A Shared Commitment to Security

Saving Lives Together (SLT) frames security collaboration between United Nations Organisations (UN), Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and International Organisations (IOs).

About SLT

SLT is built around the recognition that structured cooperation enables humanitarian and development actors to make informed decisions that reduce risks to personnel and support the safe delivery of assistance to communities in need.

SLT creates the space for this cooperation and aims to foster trust, communication, and coordination essential for effective security risk management.

Key Principles

- 1 SLT is designed to complement - not replace - organisations' internal security risk management systems. All partners remain individually responsible for the safety and security of their own personnel under their duty of care obligations.
- 2 SLT is not mandatory - but security collaboration is global best practice developed by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), endorsed by Inter-Agency Security Management Network (IASMN) and approved by UN High-Level Committee on Management (HLCM); the success of SLT depends on active, sustained engagement by all partners.
- 3 SLT is implemented via focal points at the country level: UNDSS or another UN Security Management System (UNSMS) organization; INSO, the country level NGO forum, or a nominated operational NGO for the NGOs/IOs. The presence of focal points do not prevent bilateral cooperation.

Core Areas of Collaboration

SLT involves UNSMS organisations, NGOs, and IOs that are operational or implementing partners of the UN. Collaboration includes:



Establishment of shared security coordination meetings which could include Security Cell, Security Management Team (SMT), and NGO/IO meetings, as appropriate.



Sharing of security information, data, and analysis to inform a shared understanding and support decision making. Information shared under SLT is strictly for security purposes and must be treated confidentially.



Cooperation on the development and delivery of security training.



Cooperation on joint operational planning and logistics, especially in relation to contingency and shared transportation.



Consultation on common security approaches to support principled humanitarian action, especially towards host nations and in relation to security escorts.



Cooperation on identifying security requirements to be included in funding appeals.

SLT is supported by the SLT Oversight Committee, co-chaired by UNDSS and an NGO representative. The Committee guides implementation, shares good practice, and ensures that SLT remains effective and inclusive. For more information, please refer to the [UNSMS Security Policy Manual – Saving Lives Together](#).